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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
HARRISBURG

THE GOVERNOR

August 22, 1997

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Office of the Secretary  
CC Docket No. 96-45  
Federal Communications Commission  
Room 222  
1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Secretary:


I am pleased to provide two nominees to be considered for the FCC's Universal Service Administrator Advisory Committee. Due to the impact this Committee's work will have on Pennsylvania: its rural and low income customers, rural health care providers and our schools and libraries, I ask for your consideration of Eugene Hickok, Secretary of Education, and Nora Mead Brownell, Commissioner to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission.

As Secretary of Education, Eugene Hickok has overseen the implementation of Pennsylvania's innovative community-based approach toward education technology, Link To Learn. The successes of Link To Learn have positioned Pennsylvania as a leader in technology in education and as a leader in carrying out the FCC's Universal Service Fund for schools and libraries.

As a Commissioner to the Public Utility Commission, Ms. Mead Brownell's commitment to the outcome of universal service and her expertise in utility regulation is further bolstered by her unique background in corporate communications and her work with the Community Reinvestment Act.

I have complete confidence in the abilities of both the nominees and trust they will represent their respective constituencies to the best of their abilities.

Sincerely,

  
TOM RIDGE

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List ATTORNEY \_\_\_\_\_

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RE

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
333 MARKET STREET  
HARRISBURG, PA 17126-0333

SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

AUG 26 1997

717-787-8820  
TTY 717-783-8449

**Pennsylvania Secretary of Education  
Eugene W. Hickok**

Eugene W. Hickok was nominated by Pennsylvania Governor Tom Ridge in March 1995 to the post of Secretary of Education and confirmed by the Senate on May 2, 1995.

Hickok, 46, of Carlisle, is a teacher, scholar and author. Since 1980, he has taught political science at Dickinson College and, most recently, served as director of the Clarke Center for the Interdisciplinary Study of Contemporary Issues. In addition, he was an adjunct professor at the Dickinson School of Law.

Widely recognized as an outstanding teacher, Hickok twice was awarded Dickinson's prestigious Gano Award for Inspirational Teaching in 1985 and 1990.

An expert on public policy and the U.S. Constitution, Hickok has published scores of articles and books, and has testified frequently on a wide range of issues before committees of the U. S. House and Senate and both houses of the Pennsylvania Legislature. A number of his works have focused on reform issues, and the need to reinvigorate citizenship in the public arena.

In 1986 and 1987, he served as a special assistant in the Office of Legal Counsel at the U.S. Department of Justice. In addition, he has served as an adjunct scholar at the Heritage Foundation in Washington.

Dr. Hickok is well-known as a commentator on local and national media on the issues of government, education and politics. He has been a guest on ABC News "Nightline," C-SPAN and the MacNeil-Lehrer News Hour.

Outside the classroom, Dr. Hickok served as an elected member of the Carlisle Area School Board up until his appointment by the Governor as Secretary of Education.

He is married to the former Katharine Pauley and is the father of two school-age children who attend the Carlisle public schools.

## Link-to-Learn Accomplishments

In 1996, Governor Ridge initiated an educational technology initiative which has since gained international recognition. This initiative, Link-to-Learn, seeks to make Pennsylvania educationally and economically competitive through the proper employment of technologies in schools and communities. The centerpiece of Link-to-Learn is the Pennsylvania Education Network (PEN), a collection of community-based networks, resources, and applications interconnected throughout the Commonwealth.

Accomplishments during the first year include:

- **Assessment:** An unprecedented technology assessment of over 10,000 institutions in Pennsylvania was conducted. The results are in a GIS database accessible through the Internet allowing citizens to view the current technology resources and infrastructure in their community. No other state has ever undertaken such a detailed effort. In addition, a survey was conducted of every school district with a 100 percent return rate. This survey measured not just the number of computers in schools, but also the type and how the technology was being used by students, teachers, and administrators.
- **Professional Development:** Distinguishing itself from many other states' efforts, Link-to-Learn places a strong emphasis on professional development to ensure that the technology is used effectively as a teaching tool. The Professional Development project is also producing case studies, tutorials, and quick success lesson plans which are accessible through the web. These will also be produced on 30,000 CD-ROMs for those educators without Internet access.
- **Community-Based:** In order to receive funds, schools were required to indicate how they would share the technology with the community. Many schools offered classes for the community or offered extended library hours where community members could access the Internet. One school district trained over 3,000 community members with the help of local businesses.
- **National and International Recognition:** Because of its innovative, comprehensive, community-based approach toward educational technology, Link-to-Learn is placing Pennsylvania on the map as being a leader in technology. Officials from countries such as *Canada and China* are discussing ways of partnering and transferring technology advancements with Link-to-Learn. In addition, Pennsylvania was one of the first of eight states to be awarded Technology Literacy Challenge Funds due largely in part to the work done through Link-to-Learn. More recently, Pennsylvania is being recognised as leader in its implementation of the FCC's Universal Service Fund for schools and libraries.
- **Resources:** Every school district received a portion of \$33.3 million which was used for computers, professional development, local area networks, and educational software. An additional \$4 million was awarded through a competitive grant to 14 consortiums to explore innovative uses of technology in education and communities.

## Curriculum Vitae

**EUGENE WELCH HICKOK, JR.****ADDRESS**

127 Conway Street  
Carlisle, Pennsylvania 17013  
(717) 245-0950

**PERSONAL**

**Birthdate:** September 6, 1950

**Family:** Married to the former Katharine Pauley  
Two children

**Education:** Ph.D., Government (Public Affairs)  
University of Virginia (1983)

M.A., Public Administration  
University of Virginia (1978)

B.A., Government and Foreign Affairs  
Hampden-Sydney College (1972)

**EMPLOYMENT**

**March, 1995 - present** Secretary of Education  
Pennsylvania Department of Education  
333 Market Street  
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17126-0333

**1994 - March, 1995** Director  
Clarke Center for the Interdisciplinary  
Study of Contemporary Issues  
Dickinson College  
Carlisle, Pennsylvania 17013

**1990 - March, 1995** Associate Professor  
Department of Political Science  
Dickinson College  
Carlisle, Pennsylvania 17013

1985 - March, 1995	Adjunct Professor Dickinson School of Law Carlisle, Pennsylvania 17013
1991 - 1995	Adjunct Scholar Heritage Foundation Washington, D.C.
1990 - 1991	Bradley Resident Scholar Heritage Foundation Washington, D.C.
1983 - 1990	Assistant Professor Department of Political Science Dickinson College Carlisle, Pennsylvania 17013 (on leave 1985-1987)
1986 - 1987	Special Assistant Office of Legal Counsel U.S. Department of Justice Washington, D.C.
1987 - 1995	Adjunct Scholar Center for Judicial Studies Washington, D.C.
1980 - 1983	Instructor Department of Political Science Dickinson College Carlisle, Pennsylvania 17013
1979 - 1980	Associate Director & Instructor Department of Political Science John C. Stennis Institute of Government Mississippi State University Mississippi State, Mississippi
1974 - 1976	Associate Director of Development Hampden-Sydney College Hampden-Sydney, Virginia
1973 - 1974	Director of Financial Aid Hampden-Sydney College Hampden-Sydney, Virginia

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**TEACHING EXPERTISE**

American Government  
Legislative Process  
American Presidency  
Federalism & Intergovernmental Affairs  
Policy Studies  
Constitutional Issues

## **Commissioner Nora Mead Brownell**

A resident of Montgomery County, Nora Mead Brownell most recently acted as the Executive Director of the Regional Performing Arts Center in Philadelphia. The project is a \$200 million arts and economic development initiative.

Brownell was the Senior Vice President responsible for Meridian Bankcorp, Inc's Corporate Affairs Unit. In this capacity, she oversaw corporate communications, public relations, operations and policy direction for corporate community relations and Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) activities. She was responsible for the formation of the Meridian Community Partnership Development Corporation, a bank subsidiary designed to foster economic development.

Brownell joined Meridian in 1987 to manage the corporate community relations program, including major sponsorships, special events, in-kind contributions and direct grants from the Meridian Foundation. Prior to that, she was Deputy Executive Assistant to former Pennsylvania governor Richard Thornburg.

Brownell, a native of Erie, PA, is the mother of three grown children, and attended Syracuse University. Commissioner Brownell's term will expire March 31, 2002.

## **NORA MEAD BROWNELL**

### **1997-Present *ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, REGIONAL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, INC***

- Coordinating start-up development of \$203 million performing arts center in Philadelphia.
- Establishing staffing levels, policies, marketing and fundraising
- Managing consultants in development of programming and proformas.

### **1992 - 1996 *SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, CORPORATE AFFAIRS, MERIDIAN BANCORP / CORESTATES BANCORP.***

- Established Corporate Affairs department reporting to Office of the Chairman to develop strategy and coordinate all image-related activities for Meridian Bancorp Inc., a \$15 billion Financial Services Company
- Supervised departments of Communications, Image Advertising, Community Relations and Community Reinvestment Program for the bank holding company and its subsidiaries
- Served on re-engineering & merger teams
- Oversaw philanthropic policy and programs
- Directed legislative responses to regulatory changes in Community Reinvestment.
- Represented Bancorp as external spokesperson on image issues
- Managed external PR & Advertising agency contracts



## **NORA MEAD BROWNELL**

**1987-1992      VICE PRESIDENT, CORPORATE COMMUNITY RELATIONS,  
MERIDIAN BANCORP, INC.**

- Designed and managed a Community Reinvestment Strategic Plan to implement a Lending, Marketing and Investment Program mandated by Federal Law in 1987. program was one of 9% in the country to receive three outstanding ratings from Federal Reserve in 1992, 1993 and 1994.
- Developed philanthropic policy and structure for Community Relations for a growing financial services company
- Created and managed contributions and special events to strengthen relationships with non-profit community agencies, enhance public image and support customer development
- Founded Meridian Community Partnership Development Corporation, a Bank subsidiary designed to foster economic development.
- Established internal systems and performance measures for all programs.

**1982-1987      DEPUTY EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO GOVERNOR RICHARD  
THORNBURGH, HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA**

- Coordinated gubernatorial appointments to 400 Boards and Commissions with Pennsylvania Senate and other organizations.
- Managed relations with special interest groups
- Acted as executive branch response to legislative review of Boards and Commissions.

**NORA MEAD BROWNELL**

1981-1982 **INAUGURAL DIRECTOR/CAMPAIGN CONSULTANT FOR  
GOVERNOR THORNBURGH RE-ELECTION CAMPAIGN,  
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA**

1980-1981 **AUCTION DIRECTOR, WHYY, PHILADELPHIA PBS AFFILIATE,  
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA**

**Affiliations:**

**Current**

Board - Philadelphia Free Library  
Board - Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce Arts & Culture Council  
Board - Times Publishing Company  
Board - Need Indeed  
Board - Please Touch Museum

**Former**

Chairman - Pennsylvania Bankers Association Community  
Reinvestment Act Committee  
President - Meridian Community Partnership Development Corporation  
Board - Preservation Pennsylvania (Treasurer)  
Board - Harmony House Co-operative  
Member - Meridian Political Action Committee

**Education:**

Syracuse University 1966-69  
Manhattanville College 1965-66  
Norton School 1962-65